Forcepoint

NGFW Security Management Center

6.10.0

Release Notes

Revision A

Contents

About this release

This document contains important information about this release of Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center (SMC). We strongly recommend that you read the entire document.

For detailed information about changes introduced in the SMC API since the previous version, see the automatically generated change log reports in the `api_change_log.zip` file in the `Documentation/SMC_API` folder of the SMC installation files.

System requirements

To use this product, your system must meet these basic hardware and software requirements.

SMC hardware requirements

You can install the SMC on standard hardware.

Component	Requirement
CPU	Intel® Core™ family processor or higher recommended, or equivalent on a non-Intel platform
Disk space	■ Management Server: 6 GB ■ Log Server: 50 GB

Component	Requirement
Memory	■ Management Server, Log Server, Web Portal Server: 16 GB RAM ■ If all SMC servers are on the same computer: 32 GB RAM ■ If you use the SMC Web Access feature: an additional 2 GB RAM per administrator session ■ Management Client: 2 GB RAM The SMC server requirements are the *minimum* requirements. The Management Server and Log Server in particular benefit from having more than the minimum amount of RAM. On high-end appliances that have a lot of RAM, the SMC might not provision the maximum amount of RAM for use by the SMC servers. For information about how to manually modify the provisioning, see Knowledge Base article 10016.
Management Client peripherals	■ A mouse or pointing device ■ SVGA (1024x768) display or higher

CAUTION

To protect the privacy of your data, we recommend using dedicated hardware for all NGFW, SMC, and SMC Appliance installations. For cloud-based virtualization platforms, use an instance type that runs on dedicated hardware. For on-premises virtualization platforms, install the NGFW Engines, SMC components, or SMC Appliance on a hypervisor that does not host any other virtual machines. For third-party hardware, do not install any other software on the computer where you install the NGFW Engines or SMC components.

Operating systems

You can install the SMC on the following operating systems. Only 64-bit operating systems are supported.

Linux	Microsoft Windows
■ Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7 and 8 ■ SUSE Linux Enterprise 12 and 15 ■ Ubuntu 18.04 LTS and 20.04 LTS	Standard and Datacenter editions of the following Windows Server versions: ■ Windows Server 2019 ■ Windows Server 2016 ■ Windows Server 2012 R2 On Windows 10, you can install the SMC in demo mode. You can also install the Management Client.

We recommend that you only use operating system versions that are currently supported by the vendor.

Other versions of the listed operating systems might be compatible, but have not been tested. Only U.S. English language versions of the listed operating systems have been tested, but other locales might also be compatible.

Build number and checksums

The build number for SMC 6.10.0 is 11117. This release contains Dynamic Update package 1337.

Use checksums to make sure that files downloaded correctly.

- smc_6.10.0_11117.zip

```
SHA1SUM:
0f11edb3886ab82997a5d38f6a7a37d470e534dc

SHA256SUM:
7961205aa65fa79bd831b8d5e58032f0aa246476bea815c0479a8490ce383638

SHA512SUM:
b38aa8b96283a21e0617939f462242c7
6d3e816f88e67f0ac51456e90a2b8951
1aa4e7ca404215f5bd3730dd070fd9d3
a2ba99b0303fc2beaf5e49e2e5262f4b
```

- smc_6.10.0_11117_linux.zip

```
SHA1SUM:
ac62f2c00328c7d2fbd435e45e703a9cdefafe54

SHA256SUM:
78f88f37c5afd04473aa57631f8a4a119f0a51db8376d4815e93bf35a843e58c

SHA512SUM:
1dea9f1061ea5c06ac19c32f9b47bfff
61da67e3cc095fca1b9fb80a76117ff5
68ce8fcaa662c4148d18849882543468
81ea3d5bdb17b6b0c83aed53039c64ea
```

- smc_6.10.0_11117_windows.zip

```
SHA1SUM:
4cbb0404e5a1d8f157dec420abc0b2916f11f58c

SHA256SUM:
a20c7f3b16f507c5c60f35a2e056091d736aea3f79885cd1ee605e0e6cb59196

SHA512SUM:
540a88db82c3cc82c1864b1e23862359
aa6eb4f8892448cf44858091a9273960
535447401554052772 7643af71bddc70
c61fa92a15ee9af0c8790fb752d3c54d
```

Compatibility

SMC 6.10 can manage all compatible Forcepoint NGFW Engine versions up to and including version 6.10.

Important

Some versions of Forcepoint NGFW have reached end-of-life status and no longer receive maintenance releases that contain security updates. Even though these Forcepoint NGFW versions might be compatible with the SMC, we recommend that you use a Long-Term Support version that is still supported. For more information about the Forcepoint NGFW lifecycle policy, see https://support.forcepoint.com/ProductSupportLifeCycle.

SMC 6.10 is compatible with the following component versions.

- Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall (Forcepoint NGFW) 6.3 or higher
- McAfee Enterprise Security Manager (McAfee ESM) 11.1.x or higher

New features

This release of the product includes these new features. For more information and configuration instructions, see the *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Product Guide* and the *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*.

Snort inspection on NGFW Engines

The Snort network intrusion detection system and intrusion prevention system has been integrated into Forcepoint NGFW. You can import externally created Snort configurations into Forcepoint NGFW to use Snort rules for inspection.

You can configure Snort inspection globally for all NGFW Engines, or for individual NGFW Engines. You can use both NGFW deep inspection and Snort inspection for the same traffic, or you can use only NGFW deep inspection or only Snort inspection.

Enhancements

This release of the product includes these enhancements.

Enhancements in SMC version 6.10.0

Enhancement	Description
Exact values in exported reports	You can now use exact values instead of rounded values when you export reports as tab-delimited text files. To use exact values in reports, set the value of the TXT_REPORT_RAW_VALUES parameter to true. For reports exported using the Management Client, set the parameter in the SGClientConfiguration.txt file. For reports exported on the Management Server, set the parameter in the SGConfiguration.txt file.

Enhancement	Description
Improved SD-WAN monitoring	The performance of SD-WAN monitoring has been improved. New options for SD-WAN monitoring have also been introduced. ■ The performance of SD-WAN monitoring in the Home view has been improved. ■ The performance of branch connectivity monitoring has been improved. ■ Branch connectivity diagrams have been enhanced. The diagram now includes shortcuts that zoom in on specific world regions on the map. ■ The Tunnels pane of branch home pages and VPN home pages can now show the status of either endpoint-to-endpoint tunnels or gateway-to-gateway tunnels. Previously, the Tunnels pane only showed the status of endpoint-to-endpoint tunnels. ■ A new VPN gateways pane that summarizes the status of the Gateways in the VPN has been added to the VPN home pages. The previous VPN gateway diagram pane is still available but it is not shown by default.
OWASP encoding in SMC API responses	There is a new option in the SMC installer to enable OWASP encoding for the SMC API. When the option is enabled, the SMC API uses the OWASP encoder in responses. Using the OWASP encoder reduces the risk of cross site scripting (XSS) attacks. This option is especially useful if you use the SMC API to generate HTML pages that are shown in a browser. **Note** When you enable this option, some strings in data returned by the SMC API, such as special characters inside JSON payloads, are also encoded. We recommend enabling this option only if you use the SMC API in a web browser.
SHA-256 support for NTP servers	You can now configure NTP Server elements to use SHA-256 authentication keys.
Warning about timeout when importing elements	On the progress tab for importing elements, a warning message is now shown when the default timeout for resolving conflicts between elements in the import file and existing elements is about to be reached. By default, the timeout is 15 minutes. You can optionally change the timeout using the CONFLICT_RESOLVING_OPERATION_TIMEOUT_MINUTES=<number of minutes> parameter in the SGConfiguration.txt in the SGHOME/data directory on the Management Server.

Resolved and known issues

For a list of resolved and known issues in this product release, see Knowledge Base article 38461.

Installation instructions

Use these high-level steps to install the SMC and the Forcepoint NGFW Engines.

For detailed information, see the *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*. All guides are available for download at https://support.forcepoint.com/Documentation.

Note

The sgadmin user is reserved for SMC use on Linux, so it must not exist before the SMC is installed for the first time.

Note

If you install the SMC on Windows and Windows Defender is enabled, it might take a long time to activate a dynamic update package. For more information, see Knowledge Base article 14055.

Steps

1) Install the Management Server, the Log Servers, and optionally the Web Portal Servers.

2) Import the licenses for all components.
   You can generate licenses at https://stonesoftlicenses.forcepoint.com.

3) Configure the Firewall, IPS, or Layer 2 Firewall elements in the Management Client from the **Configuration** view.

4) To generate initial configurations, right-click each NGFW Engine, then select **Configuration** > **Save Initial Configuration**.
   Make a note of the one-time password.

5) Make the initial connection from the NGFW Engines to the Management Server, then enter the one-time password.

6) Create and upload a policy on the NGFW Engines in the Management Client.

Upgrade instructions

Take the following into consideration before upgrading the SMC.

Note

The SMC (Management Server, Log Server, and Web Portal Server) must be upgraded before the NGFW Engines are upgraded to the same major version.

- SMC 6.10 requires an updated license.
  - If the automatic license update function is in use, the license is updated automatically.
  - If the automatic license update function is not in use, request a license upgrade on our website at https://stonesoftlicenses.forcepoint.com. Activate the new license in the Management Client before upgrading the software.
- To upgrade a lower version of the SMC to 6.10, we strongly recommend that you stop all SMC servers and create a backup before continuing with the upgrade. After creating the backup, run the appropriate setup file, depending on the operating system. The installation program detects the old version and does the upgrade automatically.
- When you upgrade the SMC, the dynamic update package that is included with the SMC installer is imported and activated. However, if a newer version of the dynamic update package has previously been imported or downloaded before the upgrade, the newest version is activated instead.
- You can upgrade from the following SMC versions:
  - 5.6.2 – 6.4.10
  - 6.5.0 – 6.5.18
  - 6.6.0 – 6.6.5
  - 6.7.0 – 6.7.5
  - 6.8.0 – 6.8.5
  - 6.9.0 – 6.9.2

  Versions lower than 5.6.2 require an upgrade to one of these versions before upgrading to 6.10.0.
- Before upgrading, make sure that you have removed all elements related to McAfee Endpoint Intelligence Agent (McAfee EIA). Also remove all references in Access rules.

Upgrade notes

- SMC version 6.9 was the last version of the SMC that was compatible with McAfee ePO. Features that depend on McAfee ePO, such as McAfee Threat Intelligence Exchange (TIE) local file reputation sandbox and McAfee® Data Exchange Layer (DXL) local file reputation, are no longer available in SMC 6.10 and higher.
- In SMC version 6.9.0 and higher, the default path to the installation of xvfb-run for SMC Web Access is set to /usr/bin, and you cannot change the path using the Management Client.
  If you use SMC Web Access on a Management Server or Web Portal Server installed on a Linux platform and need to change the path to the installation of xvfb-run, edit SGConfiguration.txt or WebPortalConfiguration.txt and add the following parameter:

  ```
  XVFB_RUN_DEFAULT_PATH=<path>
  ```

  Replace `<path>` with the path to the installation of xvfb-run.

Find product documentation

In the Forcepoint Customer Hub, you can find information about a released product, including product documentation, technical articles, and more.

You can get additional information and support for your product in the Forcepoint Customer Hub at https://support.forcepoint.com. There, you can access product documentation, release notes, Knowledge Base articles, downloads, cases, and contact information.

You might need to log on to access the Forcepoint Customer Hub. If you do not yet have credentials, create a customer account. See https://support.forcepoint.com/CreateAccount.

Product documentation

Every Forcepoint product has a comprehensive set of documentation.

- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Product Guide*
- Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall online Help

Note

By default, the online Help is used from the Forcepoint help server. If you want to use the online Help from a local machine (for example, an intranet server or your own computer), see Knowledge Base article 10097.

- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*

Other available documents include:

- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Hardware Guide* for your model
- *Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center Appliance Hardware Guide*
- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Quick Start Guide*
- *Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center Appliance Quick Start Guide*
- *Forcepoint NGFW SMC API User Guide*
- *Forcepoint VPN Client User Guide* for Windows or Mac
- *Forcepoint VPN Client Product Guide*

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